

90 PER CENT CLAIM
DRAFT EXEMPTION

Lawyers Giving Aid to Registrants Rushed With Inquiries.

SHOULD COME EARLY

Wives Accompany Men to Swear to the Information Given.

Fully 90 per cent of the draft questionnaires turned in so far to the draft board have claimed exemption. Columbia draft officials estimated this afternoon. About 150 men, women and children waited their turn during the day to get the assistance of the four lawyers who helped them fill out their blanks. The number was so large that several county officials put their work away and also helped. It is the advice of the draft board that men needing help on their list of questions should come to the Court-house as soon as they receive the questionnaires, as the length of time granted every man makes certain that hundreds will try to crowd in the last few days.

The majority of the papers are filled in entirely by the lawyers, except for the signatures, and each paper takes from one-half to one hour to fill out. If exemption is claimed on the grounds of dependencies alone, not as much time is taken as if it is claimed because of agricultural occupation, in which case much information must be given.

Most of the men are accompanied by their wives, who look on with anxious eyes. Each wife had to swear that the information which their husbands gave as to what it took to support them and their children, and answers to questions relating to other domestic matters, were true. One young farmer, when asked how much he had spent in the support of his wife and 5-month-old baby, thought a while and then answered, "Oh, I guess as much as \$200."

The quartermaster corps is the branch of service preferred by most of them, according to Frank G. Harris, one of the attorneys on duty today.

FIRST BASKETBALL GAME

Tigers Will Play Henry Kendall Here Tonight.

The Henry Kendall basketball team arrived in Columbia at 4:20 o'clock this afternoon. The team was scheduled to arrive here shortly after noon, but missed connections at Centralia.

The team that Athletic Director Meanwell will start in the initial game of the present season has not been picked as yet. However, judging from the men who have been used in the practice games with the freshmen, the following line-up seems the one most probable: Captain Campbell, center; Slusher and Wachter, guards; Shirkey and Ruby, forwards. Harry Viner, star guard, will be unable to play, due to an injured ankle received during the past football season. The game will start at 7:15 o'clock.

RECTOR WILL GO TO FRANCE

Rev. J. H. George Receives Notice to Sail December 26.

The Rev. J. H. George, rector of Calvary Episcopal Church, received a telegram this morning ordering him to sail from an Atlantic port December 26 for France, where he will do Y. M. C. A. work. Mr. George will be present at the children's Christmas festival at the church Saturday afternoon and will conduct services at the church Sunday morning, but will be unable to hold Sunday evening services as he had planned. He will leave for the East Sunday night.

Mr. George has just returned from a school of instruction conducted by the Y. M. C. A. in Chicago. He expected to be able to remain in Columbia until after Christmas Day.

PREPARED FOR HOLIDAY RUSH

Extra Stamp Window and Weighing Table at Postoffice.

The Postoffice has prepared for the Christmas mail by installing another stamp window and placing a table in the lobby, where packages may be weighed from 9 o'clock in the morning until 7 in the evening. The mail has been heavy for the last three days and clerks and assistants have had to work overtime.

Postmaster J. H. Guitard said this morning that packages should be sent early because trains all over the country are running behind schedules, causing the mail to be late. He said that a greater number of packages were being wrapped and tied securely than formerly.

Agricultural Club to Meet Tonight.

A meeting of the Agricultural Club will be held at 6:45 o'clock tonight in the Y. M. C. A. Auditorium to elect officers for the second semester. A meeting of the seniors of the College of Agriculture will be held just before the club meets.

THE CALENDAR

Dec. 20.—Three more shopping days before Christmas.
Dec. 20.—Spend a Christmas dollar and join the Red Cross.
Dec. 19.—It's not too late to join the Red Cross.
Dec. 21.—Address by Dr. Lyman Wilbur, president of Leland Stanford University at 10 a. m. in University Auditorium.
Dec. 21.—Friday, 4 p. m.—Christmas holidays begin.
Jan. 3.—Thursday, 8 a. m.—Christmas holidays end.
Jan. 14-18.—Farmer's Week.

UNION PLANS CAMPAIGN

Students Will Work Among Alumni During Vacation.

At a meeting of students from various counties last night at the Missouri Union Building, Morris Dry, president of the student body, explained the method the Union is going to use during the vacation to add new members to the organization. Students of each county will be asked to organize and work among the former students and alumni in their respective counties during the vacation, advertising the Union and taking subscriptions. It is the purpose of the men in charge to form at least a nucleus of an organization of the alumni in each county. The students from several of the counties have already completed their plans.

EARLY TRAIN OFFERED

Wabash Plans Change in Time to Make Better Connections Possible.

At the Commercial Club luncheon this noon, H. S. Jacks, secretary of the club, presented a new train schedule, which the Wabash Railway has suggested, giving an early morning train out of Columbia, provided that the citizens will be content with the curtailing of the 8:20 o'clock train out and the 10:10 o'clock evening train into the city.

Mr. Jacks said that this would give about the same amount of passenger service and that the proposed early morning train, to leave here at 5 or 5:30 o'clock, would make connections with Moberly accommodations, meeting a train that reaches St. Louis at 11 o'clock in the morning, and making easy connections with a Chicago and Alton train to Kansas City.

The reasons Mr. Jacks gave as favoring the change were that it would allow a freight crew to live here instead of in Centralia and it would help greatly in the development of coal mines at Switzer, allowing the men to leave here at an early hour and return at 3:45 o'clock after an eight-hour work day. Switzer can employ about thirty men in the mines from Columbia if such accommodations could be made, said Mr. Jacks.

U. S. MAKES TOYS NOW

Increase in Production Since War Started Is Around 100 Per Cent.

Real American-made toys without the stamp, "made in Germany" are found on the toy counters and in the toy shops this year. Even the big "French" dolls are not popular for they were made in Sonneberg, Germany. The few German-made toys that are found were sent to this country prior to 1916. The United States as a toy manufacturer is coming into its own and Germany as the toy center of the world is a thing of the past. From now on the only rival the United States will have will be Japan, for that country was quick to seize the opportunity to supplant the German in the American toy field.

There can be found a bewildering array of games, real steamless engines, one and two-ring circluses with bareback riders and clowns, Sandy Andy or sand toys, painting sets and miniature kitchen cabinets with small samples of groceries.

With the old standbys, tiddler-winks, authors, and dominoes are found the newer games, American-made, which combine the serious with the lighter trend of thought. With the war comes soldiers, guns, boats, and also new submarine toys.

The increase in the manufacture of toys in this country since 1913 is approximately 100 per cent. In 1910 the toy production of this country was about \$10,000,000 and Germany shipped to us toys valued at \$12,000,000 annually. The toy production of the world was at that time valued at \$50,000,000, of which \$25,000,000 were produced in Germany. England and France made a few toys, but not many.

This year the toy production should reach the value of \$70,000,000 and with Germany, England and France producing very few, it is evident that the United States and Japan are producing the bulk of them.

New Dairy Course to Be Given.

A short course in dairy manufactures, market milk and milk production will be given in the College of Agriculture, January 2 to March 1, 1918. This course is given to meet the increased needs for more dairymen to keep up the standard supply of dairy products for the state. This course is open to women as well as men.

STATE OF SIEGE NOW
EXISTS IN PETROGRAD

Disorder Reigns in Capital—Bolsheviki and Ukrainian Leaders Disagree.

ITALIANS DROP BACK

Central Powers Tell Russia of Their Intended Peace Offers to Allies.

By Associated Press

A state of siege has been proclaimed in Petrograd, and the Ukrainian Rada has refused to obey an ultimatum presented by the Bolshevik government. Disorder in the capital, due, it is said, to the looting of wine cellars and shops, made necessary the proclamation of a state of siege.

The Ukrainians have refused to permit Maximalist troops to cross their territory to attack General Kaledines and for this action the Bolshevik troops attacked the Rada as it was sitting in Odessa.

The Bolshevik government has accused the Ukrainian government of being friendly to the Constitutional Democrats and the Cossacks. Ukraine is part of the old kingdom of Poland. It has a population of 25,000,000.

Rostov-on-the-Don, recently reported captured by the Bolsheviks, is now said to have been occupied Monday by the Cossacks of General Kaledines, who, according to another recent rumor, had been arrested by his own officers.

The Cossacks later, according to a dispatch reaching London from Petrograd, proposed to the Bolsheviks that civil strife come to an end by declaring the independence of the Don territory.

Between Monte Grappe and the Brenta on the Italian front the Italians are resisting desperately and the Austro-Germans renewed their efforts to break through the hills to the plains.

The Italians, after withstanding strong attacks and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy, were forced to retire to new positions when the invaders brought up reserves. On the southern end of the Piave line the Austro-Germans have been checked in several attempts to cross the river.

On the western front the Germans have not yet given strong indication of where their advertised drive is to begin.

British shipping losses for the last week totaled seventeen vessels, a decrease of four compared with the previous week.

MISSOURIAN EDITOR TO LEAVE

H. E. Rasmussen Accepts Position in Censorship Bureau.

Harry E. Rasmussen, editor of the Evening Missourian, has accepted a position in the Bureau of Censorship at Washington. He will leave Columbia this week and will visit at his home in Austin, Minn., before going to Washington, where he will begin his duties January 1.

Mr. Rasmussen is a senior in the School of Journalism and president of the board of directors of the Missourian. He has served as editor since last spring. He is a member of the Dana Press Club, Sigma Delta Chi and Q E B H.

The Bureau of Censorship with which he will be connected is conducted under the direction of the Postoffice Department. Mr. Rasmussen does not know the exact nature of his duties.

Stephens College Closes.

Stephens College was dismissed for the holidays at 10 o'clock this morning and the students, accompanied by President James M. Wood and Roy Davis, left on the 10:50 o'clock Wabash train. At Centralia, special trains were waiting for the students going east and west. President Wood accompanied the train to Kansas City and Mr. Davis the one to St. Louis.

Special coaches will be waiting at Kansas City for those students who go to Oklahoma. The college will open again January 11.



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RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS
TOO RIGID, HE SAYS

Fred C. Colvin Criticizes Ordnance Officers for Delay Caused.

BEHIND 3 MONTHS

Many Government Arsenals Poorly Equipped—Inspection Necessary.

By Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—In the Senate military inquiry today, ordnance officers were criticized by Fred C. Colvin, editor of the American Machinist, for imposing too rigid rifle specifications. "Requirements for interchangeability of parts," he said, "delayed production three months."

He also criticized Government arsenal methods, saying the Springfield Arsenal has some machinery fifty years old, while many ordnance officers, he asserted, have no special training to qualify them.

Correspondence with Secretary Baker, which Colvin produced, showed a controversy between Mr. Colvin and Mr. Crozier, chief of the Ordnance Bureau. The former told Secretary Baker that the arsenal officers were not qualified production engineers.

General Crozier said Mr. Colvin should be barred from inspecting arsenals, because he insisted that expert machinists and not Army officers should be in charge.

Additional testimony regarding the delay in machine gun production was furnished by Vice-President Hanson of the Colt Arms Company at Hartford, Conn.

"Although the new Browning type was adopted last May," he said, "no contract was made until July, although orders were anticipated and preliminary work begun."

The delay was explained by Mr. Hanson as due in part to deliberations of the Joint Civilian Army Board, appointed by Secretary Baker to test and adopt the new weapon.

Mr. Hanson said his firm is making deliveries on previous orders of Vickers machine guns.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS HONORED

Howard Hailey Writes of Decoration of Two of His Companies.

Howard W. Hailey, formerly instructor in advertising in the School of Journalism, until recently with the American Field Service in France, tells in a letter received here of the decoration with the Croix de Guerre of two of his companies, who were wounded, and the official citation of his section for bravery under fire.

The decorations were awarded at S— at a large military review. There were several companies of French drivers, infantry, cavalry, also several hundred enlisted men of the United States Army, now in the automobile service of the quarter-master department. Two French captains were made Chevaliers of the Legion of Honor and a French sergeant was awarded the Medaille Militaire. Then the French commandant read the citation of the American section, and decorated Bob Lamont, a former student at Princeton University, who is 19 years old, with the Croix de Guerre, the palm and the Medaille Militaire. Three other Americans were decorated with the Croix de Guerre. They were Scully, Thompson and Macy. Then about twenty French drivers were decorated. The wounded men were taken back to the hospital immediately after the ceremony, but the rest of the section received permission to remain in S— for dinner.

Mr. Hailey managed to get out to the United States automobile service camp near S— and saw some former Missouri students, Ralph Taylor, C. E. Kane, J. E. Henschel, Sam Moss, Ralph Lamade, C. D. Robertson, Joe Travis, A. M. Cowan and Coburn Herndon.

J. P. Fletcher and J. E. ("Jumbo") Farmer, have been transferred to the United States ambulance service. Herbert English, Clint Collins and Ben Kline have been sent to another camp, and George Lamade is at another training camp.

"With the recent setback in Italy, the capture of the first American soldiers, and Russia's condition, some of the American boys are feeling rather pessimistic, but with the new Allied Council now directing the operations for the whole Western front, things ought to be better. Setbacks may delay the final victory but it is bound to come. The United States must do a big part, and do it fast. A lot of American boys will have to face the music, and it is not pleasant."

Mr. Hailey expected to enlist in the aviation corps, and take his training in France. His section was taken over by the United States Army shortly after the official citation.

Congressman Shackleford Here.

Dorsey W. Shackleford, Representative in Congress from this district, was in Columbia today on business.

He was on the way to his home at Jefferson City from Washington, following the adjournment of Congress.

THE WEATHER

For Columbia and vicinity: Unsettled tonight and Friday, probably light rain or snow. Colder Friday. Lowest temperature tonight above freezing but below freezing Friday night.

For Missouri: Unsettled but generally fair tonight and Friday; somewhat cold Friday and extreme north and west portions tonight.

Shippers' Forecast: Within a radius of 200 miles of Columbia the lowest temperature tonight will be West and North 30; East and South 28.

Weather Conditions. More or less overcast skies obtain everywhere, but precipitation, which has been light, has been confined to the Canadian border and North Pacific Coast.

The weather east of the Mississippi River is moderating but still is cold. In the Central Valleys and Plains temperatures approximate the seasonal normal, but the weather in western Canada is growing colder.

In Columbia unsettled weather will continue, probably with some rain or snow during the next 36 hours, and becoming colder Friday and Saturday.

Local Data. The highest temperature in Columbia yesterday was 48 and the lowest last night was 40; precipitation 0.00; relative humidity 29 p. m. yesterday 85 per cent. A year ago yesterday the highest temperature was 38 and the lowest 12 precipitation 0.00 inch.

The Almanac. Sun rises today 7:25 a. m. Sun sets, 4:49 p. m. Moon sets morn.

2,500 JOIN RED CROSS

Business Men's Committee Gets 110 Members This Morning.

E. Sydney Stephens, district manager of the Red Cross membership campaign this afternoon reported that the business men's committee took in 110 members for the Red Cross this morning. Yesterday, the women at the banks signed 135 members and the day before, 375.

In a statement of the progress of the Red Cross membership campaign, Mr. Stephens said that the business men's committee reports most of the business houses are displaying Red Cross membership flags, evidencing a large membership, but that the city's membership is only 2,500.

The poor enrollment was accounted for by Mr. Stephens by the fact that the heads of families probably do not understand that the campaign is for all members of the household; and that the bad weather had made it impossible to reach the country people as had been expected. One hundred and fifty workers throughout the country have not been heard from.

Mr. Stephens thinks that the work is well in hand, however, and that, with favorable conditions and hard work, the town and county committees can make a favorable showing to the national organization Christmas Eve.

HORSEFLESH AND HONEY

Two Foods Discussed at Meeting of Chemical Society Last Night.

The annual banquet of the Missouri Section of the American Chemical Society was given last night at the Garden Hotel Building.

Prof. J. W. Marden was toastmaster and the Christmas gifts were distributed by Walter Ritchie. Prof. W. G. Brown talked on "Honey". After briefly reviewing the origin of the term and its various applications through the ages, he spoke of the chemical properties and food value of honey.

Prof. Sidney Calvert, Prof. Addison Gulick, Prof. L. S. Palmer, Dr. Mary V. Dover and Prof. P. F. Trowbridge each gave a three-minute talk. Professor Trowbridge spoke on the probable use of horseflesh for food. He said that many horses were raised which were too small for work, but which could be used profitably for food, and that the horse was the least prone to disease of all the domestic animals.

The following officers were elected: President, L. S. Palmer; vice-president, Miss Louise Stanley, secretary, Dr. M. V. Dover; treasurer, Walter Ritchie.

W. L. Howard of California U. Here. Prof. W. L. Howard of the University of California, formerly of the horticulture department of the University of Missouri, is visiting at the home of Prof. J. C. Whitten for a few days. He will spend Christmas at Gallatin, Mo., where Mrs. Howard is now visiting, and then will go east to attend a series of scientific meetings.

Professor Howard is in charge of the pomological work of the University of California. He has headquarters at Davis, Cal., the seat of the state agricultural experiment station.

Get Positions as Stenographers.

The following students from the Rosenthal School of Commerce accepted positions as stenographers and office assistants this week: Miss Ariene Berry, College of Agriculture; Miss Florence Potter, College of Agriculture; Burd Clark, Chicago Metal and Iron Company; Miss Vespa Armstrong, Stephens Publishing Company.

To Pay Lodge Dues of Army Men.

The proceeds of the 'possum supper given last night by the Macabees in the Central Bank Building will be used to pay the dues of the twelve members who are now in the Army. The lodge has decided that all dues of those men in the service will be paid by the members at home.

KAISER'S CHRISTMAS
PEACE PLANS GIVEN

Outline of Terms Received in Washington Through Neutral Channels.

COMMENT IS VARIED

Regarded by Many as Effort to Profit by Recent Success in Russia.

By Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—What purports to be an outline of the kaiser's "Christmas peace terms" has reached here through neutral diplomatic channels. The so-called terms are said to include the following: To leave the disposition of Alsace-Lorraine to a plebiscite of the inhabitants.

England to pay Germany for the loss of her African colonies and the money to be used for rehabilitation of Belgium, Serbia, Rumania and Northern France.

Russian provinces bordering the Baltic and Black seas and Prussia to become independent under a German plan.

Poland to be considered an independent state under Austrian suzerainty.

Disarmament, freedom of the seas and commerce to be left to the peace conference.

Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro to retain their original boundaries, with the right of access to the sea being granted to Serbia.

Turkey to remain intact. Whether such a proposal of terms is merely another step in the German propaganda to impress the public mind that the Allies are responsible for the continuance of the war or a feeler of peace, is a subject for consideration.

At first glance some are inclined to regard the terms as the kaiser's peace terms, probably designed in large part to keep the German people under the illusion that they are fighting a defensive war.

There is a very decided impression, however, that Germany, having gained great advantages in Russia, might think it to her advantage to yield to Allied demands in many other directions which, in the estimation of her own statesmen, would strike a balance.

CROATIANS EXPRESS LOYALTY

Brod Na Kupi Society Sends Telegram to President Wilson.

By Associated Press

CALUMET, Mich., Dec. 20.—The loyalty to America of copper country Croats, subjects and former subjects of Austria-Hungary, is expressed in a telegram sent to President Wilson by the Brod Na Kupi Society, a branch of the Croatian Benevolent Association. The message represents the allegiance of perhaps 70 per cent of the Croats of the district and demonstrates that they are entirely in accord with America's aims in the war. The telegram follows:

"His Excellency, President Woodrow Wilson: The Brod Na Kupi, a Croatian benevolent society, welcomes the declaration of war against Austria-Hungary, our former oppressors, and takes this means of conveying to you our loyalty."

"Nicholas Chor, President." Prominent Croats have frequently expressed their sympathy with America, and a large number of young men of that nationality may be found in the uniform of a soldier or a sailor. Many of them have volunteered, while others are at Camp Custer. Likewise, Croats have evidenced their love of freedom through donations to the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and other funds.

16 GIRLS FORM UNIT IN FRANCE

Representatives of Smith College Alumnae Do Relief Work.

The Smith College Alumnae Association, with headquarters at Northampton, Mass., has a reconstruction unit at work in France, composed of about sixteen women, graduates of that institution. Each has some special qualification; for example, one is a good carpenter and another is apt at shoe-making and repairing, while practically all are good teachers. Nearly all the members of the unit studied French during their college careers and speak the language easily.

They send reports to the effect that the French children under their care have had no schooling for the last two years.

Other graduates of Smith College have declared themselves eager to go and it is expected that another unit will be organized and sent overseas by spring.

Block and Bridge Club Holds Meeting.

The Block and Bridge Club met Tuesday night to discuss the ways of assisting during Farmers' Week. The club took up the disposal of the \$50 prize which was presented by Dewitt C. Wing of the Breeders' Gazette to the man or men having their live stock in the best condition for the Short Course judging contest.